

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 204933 TOSEC 040088
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF:WNEDMONDSON:BB
APPROVED BY AF:TSEELYE
S/S -PTARNOFF(SUBS)
S/P:MSPIEGAL (SUBS)
S/S-O:AWOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104933 TOSEC 040088

NODIS
FOR SPIEGEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT:ACTION MEMORANDUM: INSTRUCTIONS TO INFORM
SOUTH AFRICA OF US-UK AGREEMENT TO BEGIN JOINT CONSULTA-
TIONS ON RHODESIA

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS THAT YOU APPROVE FOLLOWING DRAFT
TELEGRAM TO BE COORDINATED WITH BRITISH BY AMEMBASSY LONDON
AND AUTHORIZE ITS TRANSMISSION TO EMBASSY CAPE TOWN.

APPROVE:
DISAPPROVE:
QUOTE
CONFIDENTIAL

NIACT IMMEDIATE CAPE TOWN, FOR CHARGE
CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: PFOR, RH
SUBJECT: INFORMING SAG OF US-UK AGREEMENT TO BEGIN JOINT
CONSULTATIONS ON RHODESIA

1. AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY YOU SHOULD INFORM FONMIN BOTHA
OR BRAND FOURIE OF US-UK AGREEMENT ON NEXT STEPS IN RHODESIA
USING TALKING POINTS IN PARA 2 AND INFORMING THEM THAT WE
AND BRITISH ARE PLANNING MAKE SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT

ALONG LINES OF DRAFT TEXT IN PARA 3.

2. TALKING POINTS:

A. THE U.S. AND U.K. ARE PLANNING TO ANNOUNCE SIMULTANEOUSLY THE NEXT STEPS IN RHODESIA NEGOTIATIONS ON OR BEFORE WEDNESDAY, MAY 11. WE FEEL IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND WHAT OUR PLANS ARE BEFORE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE.

B. THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS AGREED TO BECOME MORE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT THAN WE HAVE HITHERTO BEEN.

C. THIS WILLINGNESS SERVES AS AN INDICATION OF OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE FEEL THAT OUR DESIRE TO ASSIST RHODESIA TO INDEPENDENCE IS NOT ONLY CONSISTENT WITH OUR PRINCIPLES, BUT ALSO SERVES AS A COUNTERWEIGHT TO SOVIET DESIGNS FOR THE REGION.

D. CONTINUED VIOLENCE IN RHODESIA INCREASES THE POSSIBILITY OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION. A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IS THEREFORE OF GROWING URGENCY.

E. AS THE NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING A RHODESIAN CONSTITUTION EVOLVE, THERE WILL BE MANY ISSUES THAT CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED THROUGH COMPROMISE AND MODERATION. WE HOPE THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING
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MR. SMITH TO UNDERSTAND THE REALITIES OF HIS SITUATION.

F. WE HAVE CONSULTED CLOSELY WITH THE BRITISH AND AGREE WITH THEM THAT CONSULTATIONS ABOUT AN INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION AND THE NECESSARY TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS COULD HELP ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE AGREED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM IN CARRYING OUT A NEW PHASE OF INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES THAT WERE PRESENT AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

G. WE BELIEVE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE SOME BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AMONG THE PARTIES AND FOR A SETTLEMENT. IT WOULD BE FUTILE TO RUSH INTO ANOTHER CONFERENCE BEFORE THERE IS SOME AGREEMENT ON BASIC PRINCIPLES.

H. WE SEE OUR ROLE IN THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS AS FACILITATING AGREEMENT ON BASIC PRINCIPLES AND HELPING THE BRITISH SEEK A REAL BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT.

I. IF THERE IS PROGRESS IN THE CONSULTATIONS, WE ARE PREPARED TO ASK THE FRONT LINE STATES TO URGE THE NATIONALISTS TO ACCEPT A JUST SETTLEMENT. THERE ARE LIMITS TO OUR ABILITY, BUT WE BELIEVE WE CAN HAVE A CONSTRUCTIVE INFLUENCE.

J. TO PURSUE THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, THE U.S. WILL ASSIGN A SENIOR OFFICIAL TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE HEAD OF THE GROUP. OCCASIONAL VISITS TO RHODESIA MAY BE NECESSARY AND THE U.S. OFFICIAL WILL ACCOMPANY WHEN APPROPRIATE.

K. WE WILL CONDUCT CONSULTATIONS JOINTLY WITH THE BRITISH OR SEPARATELY DEPENDING ON THE WISHES OF THE INDIVIDUAL PARTIES.

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L. WE DO NOT WISH OURSELVES TO NEGOTIATE THE DETAILS OF A CONSTITUTION. THIS SHOULD PROPERLY BE LEFT TO THOSE IMMEDIATELY CONCERNED AND THE U.K.

3. BEGIN TEXT:THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE, MR. CYRUS VANCE, AND THE BRITISH FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY, DR. DAVID OWEN, HAVE CONSIDERED THE PROBLEM OF RHODESIA IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATTER'S TRIP TO AFRICA. BOTH GOVERNMENTS WISH TO REITERATE THEIR COMMON DETERMINATION TO WORK FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF RHODESIA UNDER MAJORITY RULE IN 1978. THEY HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THEIR CONTACTS SO FAR TO BELIEVE THAT DETAILED CONSULTATIONS ABOUT AN INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION AND THE NECESSARY TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE A SATISFACTORY WAY TO ACHIEVE THIS. THEY HAVE, THEREFORE, AGREED THAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOW ENTER INTO A PHASE OF INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A CONSULTATIVE GROUP TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE PARTIES WHICH WILL VISIT THE AREA AS NECESSARY, INCLUDING SALISBURY. IT WILL BE HEADED BY MR. J.A.N. GRAHAM, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE. MR. VANCE HAS AGREED TO APPOINT A SENIOR UNITED STATES OFFICIAL TO WORK WITH THE HEAD OF THE BRITISH CONSULTATIVE GROUP. END TEXT CHRISTOPHER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE204933
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF:WNEDMONDSON:BB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770316-1226
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197705110/baaaetpw.tel
Line Count: 151
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b6a56088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2344523
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEMORANDUM: INSTRUCTIONS TO INFORM
TAGS: BENC, BTRA, SA, US, (MCKEE, GERALD JR)
To: SECRETARY NIACT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b6a56088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009